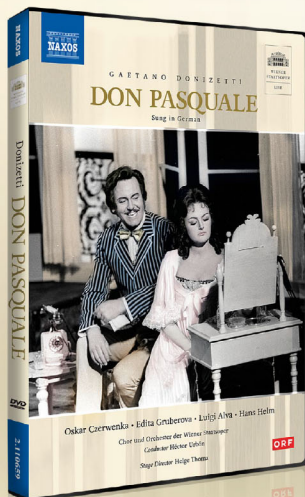


GAETANO DONIZETTI
DON PASQUALE



Donizetti's *Don Pasquale* represents the high point of the Italian *buffa* tradition, a sparkling comedy using characters from *commedia dell'arte* in ways that are entertaining, witty and playful. It was the work selected by the Vienna State Opera for its 1977 tour through Austria. Starring famous singers like the bass Oskar Czerwenka, the great lyric tenor Luigi Alva and, on the cusp of international fame, Edita Gruberova (soon to become the 'queen of *bel canto*') – this filmed performance, in colour and sung in German, showcases an outstanding ensemble at the height of its powers.



Drama buffo in three acts (five scenes) (1842)
Libretto by Giovanni Ruffini and Gaetano Donizetti after Angelo Anelli
Sung in German
German version adapted by Joachim Popelka

Don Pasquale, an elderly bachelor
Norina, a youthful widow
Doctor Malatesta, his physician
Ernesto, Don Pasquale's nephew
A Notary

OSKAR CZERWENKA Bass
EDITA GRUBEROVA Soprano
HANS HELM Baritone
LUIGI ALVA Tenor
ALOIS PERNERSTORFER
Bass-baritone

CHOR DER WIENER STAATSOOPER
ORCHESTER DER WIENER STAATSOOPER
Conductor **HÉCTOR URBÓN**

Stage Director **HELGE THOMA**
Set Designer **MATTHIAS KRALJ**

Video Director **WOLFGANG LESOWSKY**
Filmed on 30 March 1977 at the Volkshaus, Mürrzuschlag during the Vienna State Opera's first tour through various cities in Austria

A production of ORF